

October 5, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors
CC Docket 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Pai:

As representatives of public and private schools from across the United States, we respectfully encourage you to appoint Ms. Cheri Rhinhart to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors.

Ms. Rhinhart is the Information Technology Director at InterMountain Education Service District (IMESD) in Pendleton, Oregon. She has served IMESD since July 2005 and leads a diverse team supporting eighteen school districts throughout Umatilla, Morrow, and Baker counties. IMESD also contributes to a partnership that provides technology services for ten school districts in Malheur County.

Ms. Rhinhart is dedicated to using technology to promote student success, including working hard to expand access to broadband for learning. She deeply understands the E-rate program and for more than twenty years has helped schools effectively use the program's funding. She is committed to providing adequate, scalable, and affordable connectivity for all students and under her leadership the IMESD E-Rate initiative connects 80 Pacific Northwest districts to the Internet. IMESD has been an institutional member of the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) since 2008 and Ms. Rhinhart proudly became a CoSN Certified Education Technology Leader (CETL) in May 2016. She is also a current board member for the Association of Computer Professionals Oregon and Washington State and is a past president of the organization. She was appointed to the Governor's School Capital Improvement Task Force in 2013 and currently serves on the Oregon Broadband Services Rules Advisory Committee.

Our organizations strongly support the appointment of Ms. Rhinhart to the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors. We have worked closely with the FCC and USAC to improve the E-rate program since its inception and we are confident that Ms. Rhinhart's knowledge and technical expertise will aid USAC's work. For these reasons, we respectfully request that you appoint her to the USAC board.

If you have any questions, please email Keith Krueger, CEO of the Consortium for School Networking at keith@cosn.org. Thank you for carefully considering our nomination.

Respectfully,

- AASA, The School Superintendents Association
- Association of Educational Service Agencies
- Association of School Business Officials International
- Consortium for School Networking
- International Society for Technology in Education
- National Rural Education Association
- National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium
- National Association of Elementary School Principals
- National Association of Independent Schools
- National Association of Secondary School Principals
- National Association of State Boards of Education
- National Catholic Educational Association
- National Education Association
- National PTA

Cc: Commissioner Rosenworcel, Commissioner O’Rielly, Commissioner Carr